

The gospel in one verse : For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).

The wages of sin... – Everyone is a sinner; “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23)- so we’ve all lied, stolen, or coveted something (and we’ve all done worse things than that), and the bible tells us there’s a punishment (or consequence) for our sins (or wrongdoings).

... Is death ... This is not only a physical death, but also a second death in hell (the lake of fire). And all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Revelation 21:8). If we die without Jesus Christ as Savior, we will have to spend eternity in hell to be punished for our sins. This is the penalty for our sins.

The good news – But you do not have to go to hell! “The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”. Jesus Christ is the Son of God (God manifest in the flesh). He was born of a virgin, He performed miracles, He lived a perfect sinless life, and He was crucified on a cross at Calvary - “Who his own self bore our sins in His own body on the tree” (1Peter 2:24). Then He was buried, and He rose again the third day – that’s what He did to save us from hell and to give us the gift of eternal life (this is called “the gospel”, i.e. the death, burial and resurrection of Christ as full payment for our sins - He took our punishment and paid our penalty in full).

The Bible says : Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved (Acts 16:31). To believe means to trust. It is not only to believe that Jesus exists, but it is actually to put all of our faith and trust in His death, burial and resurrection as the complete payment for our sins, which guarantees us eternal life (and the forgiveness of our sins).

The Bible says “it is the gift of God; not by works lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9) – So we’re not saved by any of our works or efforts, such as : turning from our sins, or joining a church, or getting baptized, or keeping the commandments, or being a good person. Those things are good to do, but they cannot save you. The only factor that matters in salvation is whether you have believed (or accepted) Christ as Savior or not, by trusting what He did to save you (your sins must be paid for to go to heaven).

Salvation is eternal- “that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:15-16). The moment you’ve put your trust in Christ, there is nothing you can do that would make you lose salvation, because it is a gift. You didn’t have to work for it, neither can you lose it. God will discipline when you sin on this earth, but He will never send you to hell if you’ve believed in His Son. It is the promise of God – “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life” (John 3:36). If you believe what I’ve shown you so far, you can pray to receive Christ (prayer alone does not save you, you must also believe this in your heart) : “Dear Jesus, I know I’m a sinner, and I deserve hell. But I believe that you died on the cross, and that you rose again, to pay for all of my sins. Please save me right now, and give me eternal life. I’m trusting you alone as my Savior – apart from my works. Thank you for saving me, amen!”. Now that you’re saved you can share the story! Read your Bible, pray, go to church, get baptized, witness every week, and do good (become a disciple or follower of Christ to earn rewards in heaven)!